



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: October 13, 2004

Signature: _____

(Orville R. Cockings)

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Group Art Unit: 2614

Docket No.: SONYJP 3.0-164

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

OCT 21 2004

Technology Center 2600

In re Patent Application of:

Shirahama et al.

Application No.: 09/854,287

Filed: May 11, 2001

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR
PROCESSING PREDETERMINED PROGRAM
DATA

:
:
:
:
: Group Art Unit: 2614
:
: Examiner: B. P. Yenke
:
:
:

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated June 16, 2004, finally rejecting claims 1-3 and 5-15, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: